

the cost of providing accommodation was beyond their pecuniary capacity, especially at a time when they had spent more than one and a half lakhs of rupees in opening many vernacular schools. Kartikapalli was the only taluk on that side of the country which was not blessed with an English High school; they had to close an English High school for want of sympathetic treatment from Government; there were more than 200 students of the place who were studying in other high schools and many had to discontinue their studies owing to pecuniary difficulties. They had now five lower grade English schools under their management; there was a net profit to Government of more than Rs. 1,000 from the local lower grade English school. The opening of higher forms would not in any way be a source of loss to Government, and even if the opening of Form VI might cause a little expense to Government, such expense was one to which the inhabitants of the taluk might lay legitimate claim.

Dewan's reply.—The report of the Educational Expenditure Committee says that the existing departmental High schools should be converted into aided schools, but in view of the strength of the Haripad school the question of raising its standard will be considered.

111. Need for special concessions to the Kammala community in the matter of education.

Mr. N. Nilacantan Asari (Member, Nominated) dwelt on the great services rendered by the members of his community to the public at large, and referred to their deplorable backwardness in matters educational. He prayed for the grant of the following concessions to his community :—

- (1) that full-fee concession should be allowed to Kammala students;
- (2) that special scholarships should be instituted in Colleges for the benefit of Kammala students; and
- (3) that sufficient encouragement should be given to the qualified men who were already in service and to those who were seeking public service.

Dewan's reply.—It has been reported that the condition of the Kammala community is not such as to need the fee concession asked for. Since, however, you represent that the community is a poor one, the question whether it stands in need of fee concession will be re-examined on further enquiry and with reference to what is obtaining elsewhere.

As for appointments in the public service, a list of vacancies will be published periodically, and if applications are made by persons with the prescribed qualifications to the Selection Committee, they will be considered by that Committee. Promotions in the service will depend on qualifications, merit, seniority and such other considerations.

112. The depressed classes and the policy of Government in the matter of education.

Mr. Kurumban Daivathan (Member, Nominated) dwelt on the growing decrease of students among the different sections of his community and drew the attention of Government to the injustice involved in affording equality of treatment to rich Mahomedan and Malayala Brahmins and poor Pulayas in the matter of educational concessions. He urged the necessity for the following concessions being accorded to the members of his community :—

- (1) that they should be wholly exempted from school fees;
- (2) that they should be given mid-day meals as in Cochin;
- (3) that special scholarships should be granted to pupils studying in Classes V, VI, and VII of vernacular schools and in English schools;